

## MSSCAC MINUTES

March 25, 2005

9:10 am Meeting starts

Present: Dan Tarr, Lori Howell, Bill Bragg, Sherm Hoyt, Jon Hentz, Kathleen Billings, Virginia Olsen, Dick Lemont.

DMR Staff: Hal Winters, Don Card, Michelle Mason, Ron Aho and special guest David Etnier.

David came to introduce this sessions bills to the council, including our bill to increase the fines. The contact person for Public Hearing's is Rhonda Miller 207-287-1337. David also suggested participation with the Marine Resources Committee.

We discussed the bills and how they would affect industry:

LD 654

This bill was about bacteria pertaining to agriculture- Lori asked David to look into it wondering if it could have a big effect on clams.

LD 1250

This bill was about increasing the bushel fee for clams that were harvested by depuration folks. Lori asked the council for support. Discussion by the council, motion to be neutral as a council by Ginny, second by Dick, 5-0, obtained Dan and Lori

LD 667

Bill on non-native invasive species.

Motion to support this bill by Kathleen, second Ginny 8-0 passes.

DMR 3

This bill would require all harvesters to sell product to a licensed dealer, to bring Maine in compliance with the NSSP manual. Motion by Ginny to support this bill, second by Bill. Dan does not support. 7-1 Dan. Motion carries to support bill.

Minutes were corrected on the spelling of Dick's name, motion Bill, second Dan 8-0.

Discussion on the meeting Kathleen and Ginny had with Amy Fitzpatrick about the labs and personnel during Red tide and Rainfall closures.

Big problems were the budget- how far in advance time has to be submitted for overtime, and the lack of people. We will have a new lab person that will be updating the website and hotline, doing more outreach. On publicity Lori said "to give very modest information"

On the enforcement side Bill said that in Southern Maine we need to educated the DA's, Clerks, and ADA's. Bill thought that the MPO's could go to work with these folks to help make a difference in prosecuting a case.

Discussion on Rainfall closures, Lori said that we do not have any federal regulations between 2-3 inches.

Much discussion about not staffing on the weekends, Lori said we need to talk to someone higher up than Amy, next step is George, is not satisfied go up further. We must have the numbers showing the value of the industry on a 4 day closure. New committee was formed: Lori, Bill and Dick.

Kathleen gave an update on the Bay Management committee-  
Two projects have been approved, the Taunton Bay and Muskegon Bay projects. The council was encouraged to attend the state wide meetings.

David announced that the council members will now be reimbursed mileage, which was greeted with a unanimous thank you.

Thank you to the panel at the forum-

Dana Morse wanted a letter of support on a Green Crab research project he is doing in Italy. Kathleen has sent one in on our behalf.

ISSC Update:

Most discussions were on VP. The World Trade Organization is questioning some of the NSSP regulations saying that some are not scientifically based which is supposed to be the bases of all regulations. France has now asked for an audit of our manual.

April 15<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for submitting new issues to the ISSC

Update that Michelle, Laurice, and Amy are working on the legal notice.

Next meeting in June

Motion to adjourn Lori, Second Dick 8-0 12:15 adjourned